

# Town of New Hampton, New Hampshire

## Warrant and Budget

2017

To the inhabitants of the town of New Hampton in the County of Belknap in the state of New Hampshire qualified to vote in town affairs are hereby notified and warned that the two phases of the Annual Town Meeting will be held as follows:

### FIRST SESSION

You are hereby notified to meet at the New Hampton Public Safety Building for the First Session of the 2017 Town Meeting to be held at the New Hampton Public Safety Building, 26 Intervale Drive, New Hampton on Tuesday, the 7<sup>th</sup> day of February next at 7:00 p.m. The First Session will consist of explanation, discussion and debate of the warrant articles, which are attached, and will afford those voters who are present the opportunity to propose, debate and adopt amendments to the warrant articles.

In the event of an emergency cancellation, the Deliberative Session will be held on Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the same location.

### SECOND SESSION

You are also notified to meet for the Second Session of the 2017 Town Meeting, to vote by official ballot Election of town officers, zoning amendments and the warrant articles as they may have been amended at the First Session, to be held at the Town House, 86 Town House Road, New Hampton on Tuesday, the 14<sup>th</sup> day of March next. Polls for voting by official ballot at the Town House will open at 11:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m. unless the town votes to keep the polls open to a later hour.

#### Article 01: Election of Town Officers

**1 Selectman (3 year term)**

Richard J. Spead  
Mark Denoncour  
W. Wesley Hays

**1 Treasurer (3 year term)**

Karon Mertz

**1 Trustee of Trust Funds 3 year term**

A. Alden Hofling

## **Article 02: Zoning Amendment #1**

Are you in favor of the adoption of the following amendment to the New Hampton Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the planning board as follows:

Amend the criteria for the granting of a special exception to require that the building, parking and/or driveway shall not exceed 20% of the lot in the General Residential Agricultural and Rural District, 30% in the Business Commercial District 3, 40% in the Business Commercial District 2, and 50% in the Business Industrial District (BI) and Mixed Use Districts. This change makes the lot coverage requirements for special exception consistent with the requirements for permitted uses.

The Planning Board recommends this amendment.

## **Article 03: Zoning Amendment #2**

Are you in favor of the adoption of the following amendment to the New Hampton Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the planning board as follows:

Remove all references to Accessory Apartments and adopt a new use permitted by Special Exception of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) and to allow for one ADU for each single family dwelling, with up to 800 square feet of inhabitable space, two bedrooms and adequate parking and septic disposal system. This proposed amendment is to comply with recent State law changes.

The Planning Board recommends this amendment.

## **Article 04: Zoning Amendment #3**

Are you in favor of the adoption of the following amendment to the New Hampton Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the planning board as follows:

Allow Agri-tourism by Special Exception in all Zoning Districts other than the Business Industrial District and define Agri-tourism as the direct sale of agricultural products, offering educational experiences, B&B accommodations and entertainment in order to contribute to the economic viability and long term sustainability of agricultural activities in New Hampton.

The Planning Board recommends this amendment.

## **Article 05: Zoning Amendment #4**

Are you in favor of the adoption of the following amendment to the New Hampton Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the planning board as follows:

Allow the zoning board to grant a special exception to reduce the setbacks for septic systems on non-conforming lots from 20 feet to no less than 10 feet unless the State of NH Department of Environmental Services grants a waiver to reduce the setback further, in which case the ZBA may consider reducing the setback to less than 10 feet.

The Planning Board recommends this amendment.

#### **Article 06: Zoning Amendment #5**

Are you in favor of the adoption of the following amendment to the New Hampton Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the planning board as follows:

Amend the Sign Ordinance regulations in all districts to address changes in the law which will remove or amend any language that regulates signs based on the content/message on the sign, to exempt signs of less than 2 square feet from the ordinance, and to require that notice shall be given for the placement of temporary signs.

The Planning Board recommends this amendment.

#### **Article 07: Zoning Amendment #6**

Are you in favor of the adoption of the following amendment to the New Hampton Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the planning board as follows:

Amend the ordinance to remove Flags from the definition of Signs and add a separate definition and section under General Provisions that will permit Flags in all zoning districts. In the Mixed Use District, Business Commercial Districts 2 & 3 and the Business Industrial District, the combined area of all flags on a lot may not exceed 40 square feet and only two (2) flags are permitted on a lot.

The Planning Board recommends this amendment.

#### **Article 08: Town Operating Budget**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling two million seven hundred and eighteen thousand and sixty five dollars and no cents (\$2,718,065.00)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be two million six hundred and eighty thousand seventy eight dollars and no cents (\$2,680,078.00), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action by the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. This operating budget warrant article does not include appropriation contained in ANY other warrant articles. The Selectmen recommend (3-0) this appropriation.

*Note: Amended at First Deliberative Session, February 8, 2017, which reduced the budget by \$5,172.00.*

#### **Article 09: Appropriation for PSB loan payment**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to partially pay the fourth year's bond payment on the Public Safety Building and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of this amount from the Fire Department Special Revenue Fund, which was authorized to be used for this purpose in 2011? The remainder of the annual bond payment (\$145,636.40) is included in the Operating Budget Article 8. The Selectmen recommend (3-0) this appropriation.

#### **Article 10: Evaluation of the Grange Building**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of four thousand dollars (\$4,000) for the evaluation, potential acquisition and relocation of the "Grange" building to its original location on the town property at 86 Town House Road, next to the Old 1798 Town House and gather sufficient information about the building to present to a Special Town Meeting later in 2017? Information will consist of research on potential uses by public and private organizations, estimates for repairs, hazardous materials survey, a plan for possible future improvements, etc. and negotiate the acquisition of the building to present such findings to a Special Town Meeting in May/June of 2017 for a final determination by the voters on acquiring the building. The Grange was originally built in 1826 on town property next to the Old 1798 Town House and was relocated in the mid 1800's and then again in 1911 to its present site on Main Street. The current owner is the New Hampton Community Church, which has determined it does not have a use for the building and plans to demolish it in the fall of 2017. This article will be contingent on the passing of the Warrant Article # 11. The amount of the appropriation in this article is not included in the operating budget under Article 8. The Selectmen recommend (3-0) this appropriation.

#### **Article 11: Grange Building Acquisition and Relocation**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) to acquire, relocate and make necessary repairs to the building known as the "Grange" which was originally built in 1826 on the town property next to the Old 1798 Town House and further authorize the expenditure of any private donations (\$10,000 has been pledged as the first donation), state or federal grants, or other funding that may become available to offset this appropriation? This article will be contingent on the passing of the Warrant Article #10 and an affirmative vote at the Special Town Meeting in May/June of 2017 to acquire and relocate the building. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until December 31, 2018. The amount of the appropriation in this article is not included in the operating budget under Article 8. The Selectmen recommend (3-0) this appropriation.

#### **Article 12: Committee for Management of the Grange Building**

Shall the Town create a three (3) member committee, consisting of a two (2) citizen members and a selectman or their designee, and delegate the authority to manage the use of this building? This article will be contingent on the passing of the Warrant Article # 10 and an affirmative vote at the Special Town Meeting in May/June of 2017 to acquire the building.

#### **Article 13: Surplus/Used Equipment and Vehicle Trust Fund**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be placed in the Surplus/Used Equipment or Vehicle Expendable Trust Fund, established in 2015 for this purpose? The amount of the appropriation in this article is not included in the operating budget under Article 8. The Selectmen recommend (3-0) this appropriation.

#### **Article 14: Highway Department Road Grader Lease/Purchase**

Shall the Town authorize the Selectmen to enter into a five year lease/purchase agreement for the lease and purchase of a Highway Department Road Grader, with a plow and wing, for a total cost of three hundred thirty one thousand nine hundred dollars (\$331,900), and to raise and appropriate sixty one thousand dollars (\$61,000) for the first year's payment? This lease agreement will contain an escape clause. The balance of \$270,900 will be offset by a trade in value of the 1986 Road Grader at \$40,000 and the remainder of \$230,900 to be financed through the lease/ purchase agreement. The amount of the appropriation in this article is not included in the operating budget under Article 8. The Selectmen recommend (3-0) this appropriation.

#### **Article 15: Purchase of Highway Truck w/plow and sander**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of fifty nine thousand five hundred dollars (\$59,500) for the purchase of a truck with a plow and sander for the Highway Department to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of \$51,400 from the Highway Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, established in 1969 and the remaining balance (\$8,100) from taxation? The amount of the appropriation in this article is not included in the operating budget under Article 8. The Selectmen recommend (3-0) this appropriation.

#### **Article 16: Repair or Replacement of Town Bridge(s)**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to be placed in the Town Bridge Repair or Replacement Expendable Trust Fund, created by Town vote in 2008 under RSA 31:19-a for the purpose of repairing or replacing town owned bridges? The amount of the appropriation in this article is not included in the operating budget under Article 8. The Selectmen recommend (3-0) this appropriation.

#### **Article 17: Purchase Baler for Recycling Center**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to purchase a baler for the Transfer Station/Recycling Center to be offset by a grant from the NH the Beautiful, if the grant is not received the article will be funded by general taxation? The amount of the appropriation in this article is not included in the operating budget under Article 8. The Selectmen recommend (3-0) this appropriation.

#### **Article 18: Purchase of Police Portable Tablets**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand five hundred dollars (\$15,500) to purchase two (2) Portable Tablets and four (4) mounting brackets for the Police Department? The amount of the appropriation in this article is not included in the operating budget under Article 8. The Selectmen recommend (3-0) this appropriation.

#### **Article 19: Fire Department/EMS Defibrillator**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of sixteen thousand dollars (\$16,000) for the final payment of a two year lease/purchase agreement for the purchase of a Fire Department Defibrillator and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of \$16,000 from the Fire Department Special Revenue Fund, with no amount from taxation? The amount of the appropriation in this article is not included in the operating budget under Article 8. The Selectmen recommend (3-0) this appropriation.

#### **Article 20: Fire Department Equipment of Radios & Pagers**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand one hundred and forty dollars (\$10,140) for the purchase of replacement radios and pagers for the Fire Department and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of \$10,140 from the Fire Department Special Revenue Fund, with no amount to be raised from taxation? The amount of the appropriation in this article is not included in the operating budget under Article 8. The Selectmen recommend (2-0-1) this appropriation.

#### **Article 21: Repair, Replace or Install Dry Hydrants**

Shall the town vote to establish a Fire Department Dry Hydrant Repair or Installation Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a, for the repair, replacement or installation of dry hydrants and to raise and appropriate five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to put in the fund, with this amount to come from taxation; further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. The amount of the appropriation in this article is not included in the operating budget under Article 8. The Selectmen recommend (3-0) this appropriation.

**Article 22: Appointment of a Town Treasurer**

Shall the town vote to authorize the Selectmen to appoint a town treasurer in accordance with RSA 41:26-e, rather than electing a treasurer, with the appointment being made in March 2018 in accordance with RSA 669:17-d?

**Article 23: All Veteran's Credit**

Shall the Town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:28-b, All Veterans' Tax Credit? If adopted, the credit will be available to any resident, or the spouse or surviving spouse of any resident, who (1) served not less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States and was honorably discharged or an officer honorably separated from services and is not eligible for or receiving a credit under RSA 72:28 or RSA 72:35. If adopted, the credit granted will be (\$500), the same amount as the standard or optional veterans' tax credit voted by the Town under RSA 72:28.

**Article 24: Petition for Replacing Playground at NHCS**

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to support the replacement of the New Hampton Community School's playground? An independent playground safety auditor has advised the school that the structure should be replaced due to safety and accessibility concerns and significant wear and tear. This one-time donation to the New Hampton Community School Parent Teacher Organization will help to offset the cost to purchase new equipment and create a more engaging play space. As the only community playground in New Hampton, this playground will be enjoyed by many. (BY PETITION) The Selectmen do not recommend (0-3) this appropriation.

Given under our hands, January 30, 2017	
We certify and attest that on or before January 30, 2017, we posted a true and attested copy of the within Warrant at the place of meeting, and like copies at Town Office at 6 Pinnacle Hill Road and the Public Works Dept. at 26 NH Route 132N, and delivered the original to the Cynthia Torsey, Town Clerk.	
Printed Name	Position
Neil G. Irvine	Chairman, Board of Selectmen
Nathaniel H. Sawyer, Jr.	Selectman
Kenneth A. Mertz	Selectman